Mr. President: I think the House has spent quite long enough on this question. We shall pass on to the next question.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* May I answer the two questions 55 & 56 together.

Mr. President: Yes.

SECRETARY AND JOINT SECRETARIES TO GOVERNMENT—SALARIES OF

55. Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether they were pleased to revise the salaries of the Secretary to Government and the Joint Secretary to Government;

(*b*) will Government please state what the present salaries of these officers are and when the same were enhanced?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):*

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Secretary to Government, Rs. 550—800.

Joint Secretaries to Government, Rs. 450—600.

The pay of the officers was revised with effect from 1st Makaram 1119.

JOINT SECRETARIES TO GOVERNMENT AND ASSISTANT SECRETARIES—SALARIES OF

56. Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* Will Government be pleased to state the number of Joint Secretaries (Junior and Senior if any gradation exists) Assistant Secretaries (Junior and Senior if any) now working in the Huzur Secretariat with their respective salaries?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):*

Joint Secretaries, 2	Pay	..	Rs. 450—600
Deputy Secretary	Pay	..	Rs. 300—400.
Assistant Secretaries, 3.	Senior	..	Rs. 200—250.
	Junior	..	Rs. 150—200.
	Temporary	..	Rs. 150—200.

The Senior Assistant Secretary is given a personal grade of Rs. 200—300 and Junior man Rs. 150—250.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* Why was this personal allowance granted?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* It is only a personal grade because the Senior Assistant Secretary was drawing Rs. 250 as Municipal Commissioner in Trichur. It was thought that it will not be fair to deprive him of the pay he was getting then. So he was given. The Junior Assistant Secretary before he was appointed as Assistant Secretary was a Sub-Magistrate. The pay of that post was revised later and he naturally complained that if he had stuck to the Criminal judiciary he would have had corresponding benefits there. Not to deprive him of the higher grade he was given a little higher grade as personal allowance.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* May I know with reference to Circular 12/19 which was placed on the table in answer to a certain question whether the revision of salaries as mentioned in answer to question 55 was under the contemplation of the Government then.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* As a matter of fact the circular was issued later. This was not done as part of the general revision. It was considered that there was some anomaly, with regard to the pay of the Secretary which was less than Rs. 800 maximum. While the Chief Engineer, the Director of Public Instruction, Director of Public Health and Panchayats, etc., were drawing Rs. 800, it was thought that the maximum pay of Secretary to Government should also be Rs. 800. It was on that ground that that was sanctioned.

With regard to Joint Secretaries their pay was reduced to Rs. 350—500 about 2 years ago. Since then the work has increased very much and their responsibility too has correspondingly increased. It was therefore thought that Government should restore to them their grade Rs. 450—600. These were the reasons that induced the Government to give these grades to these 3 officers. Therefore even if there was that circular the order would have been correct. As a matter of fact the circular was issued after the orders were passed.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* May I take it that the abnormal conditions and cost of living have no bearing on the raising and lowering of salaries.

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